

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Call to Order: Chair Debby Barrett, on January 31, 2011 at 3:00 PM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Debby Barrett, Chairman (R)
Sen. Greg Hinkle, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. John Brenden (R)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Verdell Jackson (R)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Jim Keane (D)
Sen. Cliff Larsen (D)
Sen. Donald J. Steinbeisser (R)
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)
Sen. Edward Walker (R)
Sen. David E. Wanzenried (D)

Members Excused: Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Kevin McCue, Committee Secretary
Sonja Nowakowski, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 206, 1/26/2011

HEARING ON SB 206

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:21 Sen. Llew Jones (R), SD 14, opened the hearing on SB 206, Generally revise laws related to energy transmission siting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:01 Doug Hardy, lobbyist, Montana Rural Electrical Cooperatives' Association
 00:06:19 Don Flynn, lobbyist, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 44
 00:06:47 Darryl James, lobbyist, Montana Alberta Tie Ltd (MATL LLP)
 00:07:35 Van Jamison, Vice President of Strategic Operations, Gaelectric North America
 00:12:24 Jay Bodner, Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSA)
 00:13:03 Chris Christiaens, lobbyist, Montana Farmers' Union
 00:14:08 John Fitzpatrick, lobbyist, Northwestern Energy
 00:17:28 Ronda Wiggers, lobbyist, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony:

00:19:11 Richard Opper, Director, Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)
EXHIBIT(nas24a01)
 00:26:53 Jim Jensen, lobbyist, Montana Environmental Information Center (MEIC)
 00:28:48 Tim Ravndal, representing the Lewis and Clark County Conservative Tea Party (LCCTP)
 00:31:33 Casey Perkins, lobbyist, Montana Audubon
 00:32:42 Peter Scott, lobbyist, Jefferson County
 00:38:04 Michael J. Gillis, representing the Lewis and Clark County Conservative Tea Party (LCCTP)

Informational Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:38:50 Sen. Hinkle
 00:40:50 Dir. Opper, DEQ
 00:42:22 Sen. Keane
 00:42:42 Sen. Jones
 00:43:45 Sen. Walker
 00:44:19 Sen. Brenden
 00:45:13 Mr. Jamison, Gaelectric
 00:48:21 Sen. Brenden
 00:48:37 Mr. Ravndal, LCCTP
 00:49:06 Sen. Tropila
 00:49:42 Dir. Opper
 00:51:09 Sen. Jackson
 00:51:56 Dir. Opper

00:52:49 Sen. Vincent joined the hearing
00:54:16 Sen. Keane
00:54:32 Mrs. Nowakowski, LSD
00:54:47 Sen. Barrett
00:55:14 Dir. Opper
00:56:23 Without objection, Tom Ring, DEQ
00:57:40 Sen. Barrett
00:58:12 Sen. Jones
00:59:25 Mrs. Nowakowski
01:00:32 Sen. Barrett

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:22 Sen. Jones

ADDITIONAL TESTIMONY

EXHIBIT(nas24a02)

Testimony on SB 206 submitted via e-mail by Kristine Mather on January 31, 2011.

EXHIBIT(nas24a03)

Testimony on SB 206 submitted to committee by Rachel Roberts on February 2, 2011.

EXHIBIT(nas24a04)

Testimony on SB 206 submitted to committee by Northwestern Energy on February 2, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:
01:08:21

Kevin McCue, Secretary

km

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([nas24aad.pdf](#))